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SENTENCE REVIEW DIVISION OF THE SUPREME COURT STATE OF MONTANA

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STATE OF MONTANA,)	Cause No. DC-20-114
	Plaintiff,)	Silver Bow County District Court
-vs-)	Montana Second Judicial District
AUDRIA ROSE NICKERSON,)	DECISION
	Defendant.)	

On June 25, 2021, the Defendant was sentenced to the Montana State Women's Prison for a period of twenty (20) years, with six (6) years suspended, for the offense of <u>Count I</u>: Negligent Homicide, a Felony, in violation of §45-5-104, MCA. The Defendant received credit for time served in the amount of 485 days.

On September 24, 2021, the Defendant's Application for review of that sentence came on for hearing by Zoom videoconference before the Sentence Review Division of the Montana Supreme Court (hereafter "the Division"). The Defendant appeared from the Montana Women's Prison and was represented by Teal Mittelstadt. The State was not represented. The Defendant's husband, Damien Nickerson, and Defendant's mother, Cheri Fennell, both appeared by video and gave statements. The Defendant gave a statement.

Before hearing the Application, the Defendant was advised that the Division has the authority not only to reduce the sentence or affirm it, but also increase it. The Defendant was further advised that there is no appeal from a decision of the Division. The Defendant acknowledged that she understood this and stated that she wished to proceed.

Rule 12, Rules of the Sentence Review Division of the Supreme Court of Montana, provides that, "The sentence imposed by the District Court is presumed correct. The sentence shall not be reduced or increased unless it is clearly inadequate or clearly excessive." (Section 46-18-904(3), MCA).

The Division finds that the reasons advanced for modification are insufficient to hold that the sentence imposed by the District Court is clearly inadequate or clearly excessive.

Therefore, it is the unanimous decision of the Division that the sentence is AFFIRMED.

DATED this 6th day of October, 2021.

SENTENCE REVIEW DIVISION

Hon. Dan Wilson, Acting Chair

Hon Jessica Fehr, Member

Hon. Michael B. Hayworth, Substitute Member

Copies mailed or emailed this 6th day of October, 2021, to:

Clerk of District Court – via email
Audria Rose Nickerson #3017944, Defendant
Hon. Kurt Krueger – via email
Teal Mittelstadt, Defense Counsel – via email
Samm T. Cox, Esq. – via email
Board of Pardons and Parole – via email
MWP - Records Dept. – via email

Shelly Smith, Office Administrator

Sentence Review Division